

Spaulding High School

Guide to Athletics

Fall ATHLETICS 2011

Football (JV/Varsity)

JV/Varsity Field Hockey

JV/Varsity Girls' Soccer

JV/Varsity Boys' Soccer

Cross Country (Boys' & Girls')

Cheerleading

Practices Begin:

MONDAY, AUGUST 15th = FOOTBALL ONLY!!!

- specific times to be announced in late July

MONDAY, AUGUST 22nd = Field Hockey, Soccer, Cross Country, Cheerleading

- specific times to be announced in late July

Parent Information Night – (game schedules, hand-in completed forms, meet coaches) – August 11th in the Spaulding Auditorium – stay tuned to the Times Argus, the World, and www.shsbtc.org (follow the ATHLETIC link) for more details in late July.

Required FORMS – ****LAST FOUR PAGES OF THIS PACKET ****

1. Athletic Permission-Insurance-Emergency Information*
2. Well-Exam*
3. Athletic Training Health History Form *

Academic ELIGIBILITY

Fall athletic eligibility for 2011-12 sophomores, juniors, and seniors will be determined by fourth marking period grades from the 2010-11 school year. Each student is required to maintain an overall average of “C-” (1.67 G.P.A.) and not fail a course during the previous marking period. Any sophomore, junior, or senior who is not academically eligible for fall sports/activities may choose to be placed on academic probation (see details under “Academic Eligibility” in this guide).

ALL incoming FRESHMEN are academically eligible for all fall activities/athletic teams.

For more information please contact:

Patrick Merriam, Athletic Director, at 476-6334 or pmerrshs@u61.net

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ATHLETICS

MISSION/PHILOSOPHY/PURPOSE

The mission of the Spaulding High School interscholastic athletic program is to extend educational opportunities for students, promote personal development, foster teamwork, and teach important life skills. Athletic participation contributes to the physical, social, and emotional health of our students and promotes a sense of pride amongst our athletes, school and community.

The purpose of the Spaulding High School interscholastic athletic program is to:

- promote good sportsmanship and ethical conduct
- provide a wide basis of participation in both team and individual sports
- develop a competitive program by encouraging and nurturing student athletes in all sports and providing sufficient opportunity for student athletes to develop individual ability
- encourage the development of school spirit among all team members and coaches
- cultivate positive attitudes of pride, sportsmanship, and ethical behavior in student athletes, school, and community members
- teach fundamental skills and techniques of each sport in a progressive sequence appropriate for all participants
- develop and promote healthy relationships between athletic teams, the student body, faculty/staff, and community members
- ensure that an individual student's education consist of many learning opportunities and that athletic participation is but one part of that experience

Spaulding High School offers the following seasonal athletic teams/activities:

<u>Fall</u>	<u>Winter</u>	<u>Spring</u>
JV/Varsity Football	Freshman/JV/Varsity Girls' Basketball	JV/Varsity Softball
JV/Varsity Boys' Soccer	Freshman/JV/Varsity Boys' Basketball	JV/Varsity Baseball
JV/Varsity Girls' Soccer	JV/Varsity Wrestling	JV/Varsity Boys' Lacrosse
JV/Varsity Field Hockey	Varsity Boys' Ice Hockey	JV/Varsity Girls' Lacrosse
Boys' & Girls' Cross Country	Varsity Girls' Ice Hockey	Boys'/Girls' Track & Field
Cheerleading	Boys'/Girls' Indoor Track	Boys'/Girls' Varsity Tennis
	Cheerleading	Boys'/Girls' Varsity Golf

GUIDELINES – POLICIES - PROCEDURES

Participation in interscholastic athletics at Spaulding High School is a **privilege**; a privilege that demands commitment, a strong work ethic, and a desire to compete at a high level. Therefore, it is important that students, parents, and interested persons be aware of the following guidelines, policies and procedures.

Academic Eligibility	Equipment	Program Commitment
Academic Makeup Work	Harassment	Physical Examinations - Well Exams
Attendance at Practices/Games	Hazing	Process to Resolve Concerns
Attendance at School	Health/Accident Insurance	Substance Use
Behavior & Conduct	Homeschool Students	Suspension from School
Code of Conduct/Sportsmanship	Injuries	Travel/Transportation
Community Service	Inherent Risk	VPA Ejection Policy
Communication with Coaches	Parent Permission	VPA Eligibility
"Cuts" – Team Tryouts	Participation/Playing Time	

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY for DRAMA and ATHLETICS

Every enrolled student must carry a minimum of THREE regular block classes or approved educational activities each marking period.

Each student is required to maintain an overall average of “C-” (1.67 G.P.A.) and not fail a course during the previous marking period.

Students who DO NOT fail any class AND maintain a GPA of 1.67 or higher on report cards are FULLY eligible to participate in all extra-curricular activities.

Any student who fails a class (or classes) OR has a GPA below 1.67 at the end of a marking period will be notified by school personnel (a guidance counselor, the athletic/activities director, a principal, a teacher advisor). Barring the presence of extenuating circumstances**, the student will become INELIGIBLE to participate in extra-curricular activities. Should the STUDENT choose to continue with their activity, he/she will be placed on “Academic Probation” upon meeting directly with the Athletic/Activities Director – NO EXCEPTIONS.

ACADEMIC PROBATION:

- Continue (or begin) practicing/meeting with his/her team/group
- NO game/contest/competition participation
- NO travel with team or group to events – (no early dismissals for travel purposes)
- NO dressing in uniform at games/contests/competitions – may sit on the bench
- Complete weekly progress review sheets and submit signed forms to athletic/activities director
- Grades will be reviewed by the athletic/activities director at the FIRST progress report of the next marking period. The grade review will result in one of the following:
 - If the student is passing all classes AND has a GPA of 1.67, or higher, then they will be reinstated to full participation.
 - If the student is failing a class (or classes) OR has a GPA below 1.67, then they will be declared ineligible for the remainder of the marking period.

** “Extenuating circumstances” will be defined by the Principal, but typically will include a hardship on behalf of the student. The Principal, or designee, will provide a final determination on a case by case basis.

Students who receive an incomplete in any class will have two (2) weeks to make up work for the class(es) in order to maintain academic eligibility. During this period of time, the student remains fully eligible to participate in activities. If the incomplete results in a passing grade, and the student’s GPA is higher than 1.67, then full participation is permitted. If the incomplete results in a failing grade, or GPA below 1.67, the student may be placed on academic probation (see above).

Fall sport/activity eligibility for sophomores, juniors, and seniors will be determined by fourth marking period grades from the previous school year. Incoming freshmen are eligible for all fall activities/athletics. Any sophomore, junior, or senior who is not eligible for fall sports/activities may choose to be placed on academic probation (see above). Fall academic probation review will take place at the FIRST progress report of the first making period.

Any student who is ineligible following second quarter grades (and for whom academic probation does not apply at the time) may try out for spring sports and activities IF they can provide evidence to the athletic/activities director, that they are carrying at least a 1.67 G.P.A. at the start of the spring practice period in

March. Determination of final spring eligibility will be made at the time 3rd quarter report cards are issued.

All transfer students who meet the eligibility requirements of their previous school during the most recent marking period are eligible for school activities until they receive their first Spaulding report card, at which time they become subject to Spaulding's eligibility standards.

Note:

Eligibility CANNOT be lost based upon progress report grades/GPA. Eligibility can only be GAINED at the first progress report of each quarter IF the student is on academic probation.

ACADEMIC MAKEUP WORK

Students who miss class as a result of extra-curricular activities/contests are expected to see teachers **before** an event to get assignments and make up academic work as soon as possible. This may include before or after school sessions. Participants (and coaches/advisors) should understand that practice is not an acceptable excuse for failing to complete make-up-work or for failing to attend after-school help sessions.

ATTENDANCE at PRACTICES and GAMES

Student athletes are expected to attend ALL practices and games. The coach and/or athletic director may act upon individual situations.

Student athletes with more than three (3) unexcused absences from practices/games during the season will be removed from the team.

An unexcused absence the day before a game will prevent the athlete from playing in that game.

Unexcused absences will be determined by the coach, athletic director, and/or administration.

ATTENDANCE at SCHOOL

Student athletes are expected to arrive on time to school (8:00 AM) and attend all classes the day of and the day after a contest and activities. This includes being present on Friday before a Saturday contest.

Exceptions are limited to medical or court appointments, family emergency situations, religious holidays, death of a family member or friend, college visitations, or school sponsored field trips. Further exceptions may be made *in advance* by an administrator.

A student athlete who is absent for any part of the school day because of truancy ("skipping") will be ineligible for that day's activities.

If a violation becomes known at a later date, an appropriate consequence/penalty will be exercised.

BEHAVIOR & CONDUCT

Student athletes shall represent Spaulding High School in a responsible and appropriate manner at all times. Examples of inappropriate behavior and/or conduct include, but are not limited to, inappropriate language and/or appearance, derogatory remarks to an official, coach, or teammate, or any acts that are (perceived by the coach or administration) detrimental to the best interest of the team or school. A student may face disciplinary action, which could include suspension or dismissal from the team/group based upon the severity of the offense.

School citizenship and personal conduct while representing the school are also important factors in determining eligibility. When it is decided that it is in the best interest of either the student or school, the administration will declare him/her ineligible to participate in extra-curricular activities.

CODE OF CONDUCT - Sportsmanship

The essential elements of character-building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and good citizenship. The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these six pillars of character.

A student athlete will:

- be a positive role model and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice, or other sporting event
- **not** engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct (taunting, refusing to shake hands, using profane language or gestures) with any official, coach, player, or parent
- respect the officials and their authority during games
- inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect their health, safety, or the safety of others
- play by the rules and resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence
- treat other players, coaches, officials, and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or sexual orientation
- understand that doing one's best is important regardless of the outcome
- agree that if they fail to abide by rules/guidelines of the Spaulding/Barre Tech Center athletic program they will be subject to disciplinary action

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Student athletes will perform one (1) hour of community service with their teammates, under the direction of their coach, for each season they play.

COMMUNICATION WITH COACHES

Certain topics can, and should, be discussed with your child's coach. Other topics, however, must be left to the discretion of the coach. The following examples are offered only as a guide:

Communication from coach to parents/guardians:

- Coaching philosophy;
- Expectations the coach has for your child, and for the team;
- Locations and times of practices and contests;
- Team requirements (i.e. practices, special equipment, out of season conditioning);
- Proper behavior by athletes on bus trips; estimated time of return;
- Procedures to follow should your child be injured during participation;
- Discipline that may result in the denial of your child's participation.

Appropriate topics for parents/guardians to discuss with a coach:

- Treatment of your child;
- Advance notification of any schedule conflicts;
- Your child's behavior.

Inappropriate issues to discuss with a coach:

- Playing time;
- Play calling.

“CUTS” - TEAM TRYOUTS

In some athletic activities it may be necessary to reduce (“cut”) the number of participants to a manageable size; particularly when safety, fiscal resources, equipment, facilities, and coaching personnel are considered. It is the responsibility of the coach/advisor (in consultation with the athletic director) to make decisions about what the final number of participants will be in that activity.

EQUIPMENT

All issued equipment and uniforms belong to the school. Each student athlete is responsible for any equipment and uniforms assigned to him/her. Individuals will be assessed replacement costs for abnormally damaged or missing equipment and uniforms.

Each student athlete WILL return or pay for any equipment issued by the school. Failure to do so will prohibit further participation in athletics.

HARASSMENT

Please refer to this Spaulding student/parent handbook’s index for information about the harassment policy.

HAZING

Please refer to the Spaulding student/parent handbook’s index for information about the hazing policy.

HEALTH/ACCIDENT INSURANCE

All student athletes involved in athletics **must** have health and accident insurance coverage as a condition of participation. An individual **may not** participate in an activity before proof of coverage has been submitted to the athletic department.

- K. *“No student may participate in any VPA-sanctioned activity without providing evidence to the student’s school administration or designee prior to participation in an activity showing that the participant is covered under some private or public health insurance program for the medical care for injuries that may be suffered on account of participation in an activity.”*
(Vermont Principals’ Association Policies, Article 4: RULES FOR ORGANIZED GIRLS AND BOYS SPORTS: Section 1. General Rules.)

HOMESCHOOL STUDENTS – VPA Eligibility Standards

A home study student who wishes to participate in a Spaulding High School co-curricular or athletic program shall be an eligible student under this section if:

- (1) The participating student is enrolled in a home-study program in compliance with Title 16, Section 166.
- (2) The participating student has a legal residence in the school district or is a legal resident of a district that does not maintain a school and pays tuition on behalf of its students.
- (3) Participation in a school’s co-curricular or athletic activities program shall not commence until a copy of the Vermont State Department of Education Enrollment Letter is presented to the principal by the parent or guardian.
- (4) The participating student’s academic program, as referenced in the Vermont State Department of Education

Letter of Enrollment, will be reviewed by the student's parent or guardian at appropriate intervals as locally determined and consistent for all students to determine academic progress. This review and determination must be certified in writing from the parent/guardian to the principal.

(5) Prior to the start of a sport season or fine arts and performance activities in which a home study student wishes to participate, the parent or guardian and student must notify the principal in writing that he/she wishes to participate in a school's co-curricular or athletic activities program. Failure to provide a timely notification will not disqualify the student from participating, but may result in some delays in participation.

(6) The student may participate in co-curricular or athletic activities sponsored by Spaulding High School provided the student complies with the same physical examination, insurance, age, and any other requirements for participation as required of all students.

(7) The home study student must adhere to the same standards of behavior, responsibilities and performance as other participants of the team.

(8) Eligibility issues on all matters other than academic progress may be appealed in accordance with the bylaws of the Vermont Principals' Association.

(9) Consistent with law governing all student athletes, participation in co-curricular or athletic activities programs is a privilege, not a right and nothing in these eligibility standards to confer a right on any individual to participate in co-curricular or athletic activities.

INHERENT RISK

Involvement in athletics is voluntary and optional, and carries with it certain risks that must be accepted by students and their families.

Injuries can and probably will occur during practices, games, and interacting with fellow student athletes. All costs associated with medical care, emergency medical transportation, medication, rehabilitation or therapeutic treatment must be paid through the student athlete's health and accident insurance carrier. The Spaulding High School/Barre Technical Center will not accept responsibility for any payment, co-payment, deductible or related expenses.

INJURIES

All student athletes who participate in athletics at Spaulding High School are expected to immediately report all injuries and any medical issues to their coach and/or the Athletic Trainer.

Any student athlete incapable of participation has the obligation to report this information to his/her coach, and has the right to decline participation when he/she feels incapable of doing so.

All student athletes are expected to comply with recommendations of their coach, trainer, and/or physician regarding following and/or seeking medical advice, diagnosis, rehabilitation, therapeutic care or treatment.

Following an injury, a student athlete may be required to receive medical clearance from a physician in order to resume active participation with his/her team.

PARENT PERMISSION

Student athletes MUST submit a signed parent permission form prior to participation. Athletes will not be permitted to participate in an activity before the form is completed and turned in to the athletic department staff.

PARTICIPATION/PLAYING TIME

Playing time is determined by the coach of each team. At the varsity level, some student athletes will play more than others based upon individual ability, attitude, and the team situation. At the sub-varsity level, it is expected that team members will see action in each contest. As long as they fulfill their team responsibilities and expectations, playing time for individual athletes at the sub-varsity level will be more nearly equal over the length of the season

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS – replaced by “WELL EXAMS”

Student athletes MUST have a yearly **WELL EXAM**. Proof of this exam must be provided to athletic department staff prior to participation. NO EXCEPTIONS. (<http://healthvermont.gov/local/school/index.aspx>)

PROCESS to RESOLVE CONCERNS (Includes all Co-curricular and Athletic Activities)

The following process is to be utilized to address and resolve concerns, misunderstandings, and/or issues.

Step #1 Students (athletes and participants in co-curricular programs) will address and share concerns with coach/es (or advisor/s) and attempt to resolve them.

Parent/s and supporters are expected to permit the student and coach/es (or advisor/s) to resolve their concerns **first** before becoming involved.

Step #2 If step #1 results in an unsatisfactory outcome, student **and** parent/s should address and share concerns with coach/es (or advisor/s) and attempt to resolve them.

Step #3 If step #2 results in an unsatisfactory outcome, student (and optionally, parent/s) or the coach/advisor should address and share concerns with the Athletic Director and attempt to resolve them.

Step #4 Finally, if step #3 results in an unsatisfactory outcome, student (and optionally, parent/s) or the coach/advisor should share concerns with an administrator and attempt to resolve them.

SUBSTANCE USE

The use of alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs has a negative effect on an individual's ability to perform at his/her full potential. Student athletes will demonstrate a commitment to themselves, their team, their classmates, and their school by remaining free of these substances during their activities.

If a student athlete is proven to have been in possession of, or used drugs, alcohol or tobacco products, the following terms and conditions will be initiated:

Week 1 (the first SEVEN days): The student athlete will not be allowed to participate with his/her team at all. (No practices/games/meetings, etc.)

Week 2 (day EIGHT to FOURTEEN): The student athlete is permitted to practice, but not participate in any games. (Must accompany team to games and be present with the team, but may not participate.)

Within the first two weeks of a student athlete's suspension from athletic activities, the individual must have met with a school approved substance abuse counselor, and provide the school's administration (Athletic Director and an administrator) with documentation of this meeting.

Week 3 (Day FIFTEEN & beyond): If satisfactory progress has been made in relation to the substance abuse counseling and any stipulations set by the Athletic Director or an administrator, the student is able to return to full participation.

The student athlete must provide weekly documentation of fulfillment of any requirements established by the substance abuse counselor. Failure to provide documentation will result in **immediate** dismissal from the team.

The student athlete must complete all treatment requirements in order to be eligible for the next athletic season.

Any individual student athlete who commits a second offense or failures to complete ANY requirements will be subject to a one full **calendar year** suspension from athletic participation.

SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL

Any student suspended from school is not permitted to attend meetings, practices and/or games on the days of the suspension. (A suspension that overlaps a weekend, and/or vacation period, will prevent the student from athletic participation on Saturday/Sunday (weekend), and/or during the vacation days.

TRAVEL/TRANSPORTATION (to & from events)

Participants in Spaulding athletics **MUST** travel to and from games in school provided transportation. Student athletes may travel home with parents/guardians, provided prior written approval has been received by the coach from the Athletic Director or a principal. Students may not travel in vehicles driven by other students.

VPA EJECTION POLICY

Any student ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct or a flagrant foul shall be suspended from the next two contests, (with the exception of football, skiing and gymnastics, for which the suspension shall be one contest) in the sport from which the student was ejected. If the ejection occurs in the last contest of the season, the student shall be ineligible for the same period of time in the next sport in which the student participates. If the ejection occurs in the last contest of the student's last sport season, the school shall take appropriate disciplinary action to impose a sanction proportionate to the penalties imposed by these rules, and shall report that discipline to the VPA. The suspended student may not be in uniform. A student who is ejected a second time shall be suspended for the remainder of the season in that sport.

Any member of a team who intentionally strikes, shoves, kicks, or makes other aggressive physical contact with an official before, during, or after an interscholastic contest, shall be disqualified immediately and may be ineligible to participate in all sports for up to one full calendar year. A student who is disqualified under this provision shall not play in any contest, pending a hearing before the Activities Standards Committee. The Activities Standards Committee shall determine the length of the suspension, giving due consideration to all relevant factors, including the seriousness of the offense. NOTE: Member of the team includes player, manager, score keepers, timers, and statisticians.

Judgment calls by officials ordering ejection shall be final. The only grounds for appeal from suspension under this section shall be that the ejection was caused by gross misconduct by the official, or that the official has filed a written report stating that the ejection was clearly erroneous. Unless a stay of the suspension is granted by the Executive Director in his sole discretion, the suspension shall be immediately effective. It is the responsibility

of the local school to ensure this regulation is enforced. When a suspended student or coach is allowed to participate, forfeiture of the contest is mandatory. This regulation shall apply to all regular season and tournament contests.

VPA ELIGIBILITY

Please visit the Vermont Principals' Association web site at www.vpaonline.org or contact the Spaulding Athletic Department at 476-6334 for detailed information about all VPA eligibility requirements for students.

From VPA Bylaws Section 3. Eligibility Limitations and Amateur Status

A. Contestants or participants must be enrolled in their school and must meet the school's prescribed academic and eligibility rules. Students may only compete on school teams sponsored by their own school during the season, and may only compete for the one school in which he or she is officially enrolled. Students may participate in meets as individuals but may not participate as a member of another team.

B. In a sports season players who have participated in competition as a member of a school group shall not compete as members of a non-school organized group in the same sport. Violation of this rule will be handled as follow:

1. For the first infraction, a warning to students will be given that the choice of participation on one or the other group must be followed.

2. For the second infraction, students will be dropped from the school group.

C. Transfer students are eligible at once provided they were bona fide students in good standing in the school from which they transferred according to the definition in Item A above and there is a bona fide change in residence. If the transfer is the result of any coercion, recruiting or inducement to move in order to participate in interscholastic activities, students will be ineligible for a period of 365 calendar days from the date of the infraction.

If there is no bona fide change in residency, students are eligible to participate immediately up to the first play date of that sports season. If a student transfers, and does not change residence, after the first play date of that sports season, the student must wait 20 calendar days after the transfer to be eligible, and must participate in at least 60% of the season competitions (at the new school) to be eligible for post season competition.

If there is no bona fide change in residency, a student who transfers twice or more during a 365 day period will not be eligible at the new school(s) after his or her subsequent transfers until one calendar year after the date of the first transfer.

The VPA may grant a waiver of the 20 calendar day waiting period or the 60% eligibility requirement or the 365 calendar day waiting period for multiple transfers upon request by the school if the school establishes that the transfer was made for reasons not related to activities.

The principal of any receiving school shall check carefully to determine the reasons for the transfer.

Reports of suspected violations of transfer students' eligibility rules must be made to the VPA immediately.

D. A school shall be deemed in violation of the rule against recruitment for directly or indirectly supporting or sanctioning recruitment if a representative or agent of the school, or any individual or group associated with the athletic programs of that school, approaches a student athlete in another school, apart from a publicized meeting for all prospective students in that school, and directly or indirectly attempts to persuade or induce a student athlete to enroll in his/her school. A school may also violate this rule by failing to take adequate steps to control recruitment by third parties.

E. A student who competes in any VPA sanctioned activity must be under nineteen (19) years of age, except that a student whose nineteenth (19th) birthday occurs on or after August 1 is eligible for all activities in the ensuing school year. Students who have attained the age of nineteen (19) prior to August 1 shall be ineligible for all VPA sanctioned activities.

F. Students are ineligible if they have graduated from any course of study in a secondary school comparable to the Vermont system. The initial determination of whether the secondary school is comparable shall be

made by the school's principal. If there is a question concerning the eligibility of a student under this rule, the Executive Director may review the principal's determination. Determining whether a secondary school is comparable, the principal, Executive Director, Activity Standards Committee and the Board of Appeals shall give consideration to the normal number of years of the primary and secondary school program; the length of the school day and year; the curriculum; whether graduation makes the student eligible for post secondary education; and any other relevant information. If the total length of the normal primary and secondary program for the school system in question is less than twelve years, then the secondary school may be deemed less than comparable. Waivers of this eligibility rule may also be granted in accordance with these bylaws.

G. Students have four (4) consecutive years or eight (8) consecutive semesters of eligibility for participation in school activities. Attendance of thirty (30) school days of any semester shall be regarded as a semester. Attendance is defined as being included in the official roll and attendance records of the school and not physical presence in the class. A student that is enrolled for his/her eighth and final semester of eligibility, during the fall-winter term, may complete the winter sports season as long as he/she is an eligible student and has not graduated.

H. No student may participate in the same sport for more than four seasons.

I. Students are ineligible if they have lost their amateur standing, i.e., they have accepted remuneration, gifts or donations directly or indirectly for participation in an athletic contest, or they have participated under an assumed name, or they have competed on a team some player of which was paid for his participation, or they have entered into a playing contract with a professional club or agent. Reference to "gifts or donations" is not intended to preclude the acceptance of playing apparel and equipment that is presented by the sponsoring organization.

J. Amateur Status Rulings and Comments:

1. Students who lose amateur status in one sport do not lose it in other sports.
2. Students will lose their amateur status in the sport involved if they accept any money whether for participation or as a prize for being outstanding players.
3. Students who become members of a ski patrol will not jeopardize their amateur standing.
4. Amateurs or a team of amateurs may participate against a team of professionals. Amateurs may not participate on a professional team, or on a team where members of the team are receiving remuneration for their athletic services.
5. High School students should be advised to exercise great caution in participating in any athletic activity where there are cash prizes. Youngsters should be extremely careful in participating in adult bowling leagues where there are cash prizes. These rulings are made with two thoughts in mind:
 - (a) Maintaining an amateur status while participating in interscholastic activities.
 - (b) Protecting future athletic eligibility for activities after completion of high school.

K. All-Star Contests

1. For purposes of this policy, an All-Star contest is defined to be one in which the participants are selected based upon their performance as a member of VPA sanctioned school athletic activity. This definition does not include Babe Ruth, American Legion, summer soccer or basketball, CYO or DeMolay Activities, etc.
2. The VPA does not sanction or approve of All-Star contests. Students who participate in an All-Star contest will lose their VPA eligibility to participate in that same sport at their high school for the succeeding season. The only exception to this policy is when the All-Star contest is directly related to the activities of the U.S. Olympic Committee.

L. Students who, during the regular school day, attend specialized schools or programs where the primary purpose of this instruction or program is to enhance skills in specific sports and/or activities, during the time of established VPA seasons in that particular activity, will not be permitted to participate with their home school in that activity.

M. Students who have matriculated in a post-secondary academic program that grants degrees, certificates or diplomas shall be ineligible.